

Ad Exelleum Conamur

We Strive Toward Excellence

the HORIZON

January/February/March • 2010

The Missouri Department of Corrections Employee NewsSource

PUPPIES FOR PAROLE

Rescue, Rehabilitation and Redemption ... One Paw Print at a Time

Women at the Women's Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center have been training service dogs for many years, and the program was later expanded to include rescue dogs. Now the program is being expanded further to include men's facilities, starting at Jefferson City Correctional Center, Missouri Eastern Correctional Center, South Central Correctional Center and Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center. Plans to proliferate the program continue throughout the state. It is Director George Lombardi's vision that Puppies for Parole will be established at all Missouri prisons.



An offender at Jefferson City Correctional Center works with Koda as part of the Puppies for Parole program.

Last year more than 46,000 homeless canines were euthanized in Missouri because they were not adopted from the shelters. The Puppies for Parole program hopes to reduce that number significantly by producing loving, obedient and adoptable dogs.

Puppies for Parole continues on page **2**

Department Announces Employees of the Month

January



Mike Strong, Maintenance Supervisor II at Jefferson City Correctional Center was named the January Employee of the Month. Strong spent several hours planning for several thousand dollars worth of video equipment provided through federal funding. When it arrived, it was not what was ordered and could not be returned, so he had to redesign his original plans.

February



Coleen Harper, Cook III at South Central Correctional Center in Licking, was named February Employee of the Month. After Harper's colleague was assaulted by an offender, she quickly made the appropriate radio call and applied a burst of pepper spray to the offender, thus helping to minimize further injury to the officer or any other staff.

March



Steven Mueller, a Parole Hearing Analyst in Jefferson City, was named the March Employee of the Month. Mueller is tasked with responding to all technical violations of parole for which revocation is recommended. In one case, Mueller took into consideration the significant health problems of one absconder, and arranged for an interstate compact transfer to Florida.

Puppies for Parole *continued from front page*

The dogs are assigned to offender “trainers” who have displayed good conduct and who have received training instructions. Each trainer is responsible for his or her dog, 24 hours a day. They provide the dog with daily training and exercise, and are responsible for the dog’s overall care. Once the dogs are trained, they are returned to the shelter for placement in a good home, and several dogs have already been adopted by prison staff.

No general revenue funds are used for the program and it operates solely on private donations and donations from offender organizations. In fact, offenders at the Jefferson City Correctional Center have started selling loaves of bread to fellow inmates in an effort to support the programs. In July, there will be a Puppies for Parole fund established and the department will be able to directly receive donations for this program.

Department of Corrections Director **George Lombardi** noted, “The dogs have a remarkable impact on the offenders, improving offender behavior and giving offenders incentive to maintain excellent conduct records. Offenders not directly involved in the program are showing responsibility and selflessness by donating to support our efforts. Staff morale is also enhanced by the presence of the dogs.”

Recently somebody tossed 10 newborn puppies into



An offender in the Puppies for Parole program at Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center meets his first assigned dog.

a box and dumped them in a Jefferson City park during the extremely cold weather. The puppies were not in good shape when they were found, and the local shelter could not accept them because of the round-the-clock care they needed. So, the puppies were sent to prison. The offenders there welcomed the pups with open arms, staying up round-the-clock to bottle feed them and provide them with the warmth they needed.

A corrections officer who has witnessed the program stated, “You can’t normally show affection in here. You don’t give any. You don’t get any.” He then continued, “It will be interesting to see what the dogs teach us.” •



Offenders at South Central Correctional Center participating in the Puppies for Parole program, along with their first dogs.

To view the puppies that are currently being trained and will soon be eligible for parole, visit <http://doc.mo.gov/division/dai/puppies.php>



Message from the Director

Offender Profile

Several weeks ago the Research and Evaluation Unit completed the Missouri Department of Corrections' *"Profile of the Institutional and Supervised Offender Population"* for FY09. This guide is a detailed collection of statistics about the offenders supervised by the department, both incarcerated and on field supervision. This report is especially important because it not only defines our offender population, it also provides valuable feedback about department-sponsored programs and their success. Because I believe it is important for all staff to understand the demographics of our offender population, I would like to take this opportunity to share some of the data from that statistical abstract.



- In FY09 alone, the department received 20,000 offenders and 18,000 new probationers. Every day our department supervised more than 103,000 offenders both in the field and in prison.
- A total of 19,153 offenders were released from Missouri prisons in FY09. Of those 11,667 were released to parole, 4,289 were released to probation, 2,131 to director's discharge and 1,066 to conditional release.
- The average growth per day for incarcerated offenders was 1.21 for incarcerated offenders and 3.43 in the field, for a combined department-wide average of 4.65. The female growth rate in FY09 only rose .05 per day, while male offenders rose 1.16 per day.
- In 2005, Missouri had the 8th highest incarceration rate per 100,000 residents in the nation. Today Missouri is ranked 11th with an average of 509 incarcerated individuals per 100,000 residents.
- The typical male offender received in the diagnostic center is white, in his early 20's and serving a sentence for drug possession. It will be his first incarceration. This offender has significant substance abuse issues, and will serve an average of 17.4 months before parole. The typical male offender supervised in the field has the same demographics, except for the typical parolee, for whom the period of supervision comes in the late 20's. He will remain on supervision for 33 months before sentence discharge.
- The typical female offender received in the diagnostic center is white, in her late 20's and also serving a conviction for drug possession. Like the typical male, the typical female offender has significant substance abuse and also has moderate medical and mental health issues. This female offender will serve an average of 17

Offender Profile continues on page **4**

the HORIZON

The Missouri Department of Corrections supervises and provides rehabilitative services to adult offenders in correctional institutions and Missouri communities to enhance public safety.

The HORIZON is a publication of the Missouri Department of Corrections' Public Information Office.

Distribution is to employees of the Department, advocacy groups, elected officials, corrections directors across the United States, select law enforcement and criminal justice partners, and media outlets.

George A. Lombardi • Director

Public Information Office

Jacqueline Lapine • Communications Director
Angie Morfeld • Managing/Design Editor

Contributing Correspondents:

Institutions/Facilities

Amber Gallagher • ACC
Alice Hartsock • BCC
vacant • CMCC
Trisha Sharp • CCC
Dorothy Rostine & Sherria Kavanaugh • CRCC
Kim Crouch • CTCC
Eric Burch • ERDCC
Amy Chapman • FCC
Jackie Vantilburg & Cara McKee • FRDC
Kathy Herigon • JCCC
Kelly Parshall • MTC
vacant • MECC
Rebecca Riley • MCC
Vera Woodworth • NECC
Connie Haggard • OCC
vacant • PCC
Christy Herndon • SCCC
Sallie Goodin, Jonell Nally & Jennifer Brown • SECC
Jane Spalding • TCC
Arthur B. Griffin • WRHRC
vacant • CRHRC
Paula M. Ramirez • ERHRC

Sandy Heldenbrand • WMCC
Teresa Wright • WERDCC
Brenda Sullivan • WRDCC

P & P

Sharon Dunn • Central Office
Laura Kline • Region I
vacant • Region II
Rodney Collins • Region III
Cheryl Glass D17 • Region IV
Cheryle Ellermann D22 • Region V
vacant • Region VI
Bridget Williams & Victoria Tanner • KCCRC
vacant • SLCRC

The HORIZON encourages signed, written (or e-mailed) correspondence.

Editor • HORIZON
PO Box 236
Jefferson City, MO 65102

www.doc.mo.gov

Offender Profile *continued from page 3*

months before parole. The typical female offender supervised in the field has similar demographics and she serves 36 months before sentence discharge.

- The top three offenses for incarcerated offenders are Robbery 1st Degree (8.3 percent), Distribution of a Controlled Substance (7.3 percent) and Possession of a Controlled Substance (6.6 percent). The top five offenses for FY09 admissions were Possession of a Controlled Substance, Burglary 2nd Degree, Theft, Distribution of a Controlled Substance and Non-Support.
- Dangerous felons arriving in the department have increased from 479 in FY00 to 789 in FY09, an increase of 67 percent. Just under 34 percent of the offenders admitted with a new sentence in FY09 had a mandatory minimum percentage of time to serve.
- Violent offenders comprise 38.1 percent of the offender population, 24.2 percent are non-violent offenders, 22.2 percent have drug and/or alcohol related charges, and 15.4 percent are sexual offenders.
- Offenders incarcerated on June 30, 2009, are more likely to have their GED or diploma (61 percent) but only 12 percent are vocationally skilled and trained.
- Female offenders admitted in FY09 are four times more likely than male offenders to have significant medical issues (males 5.1 percent and females 20.5 percent). A total of 35.2 percent of female offenders admitted in FY09 require clinical care for mental health issues, compared to 14.1 percent of male offenders.
- Eighty-four percent of incoming offenders have moderate to severe substance abuse issues that require treatment. Those arriving with severe substance abuse issues have doubled since 2004.
- Sexual offenders released after completing the Missouri Sexual Offender Program have a five year return rate for a new conviction that is nearly half the return rate of those sexual offenders who failed the program or refused to participate (10.7 percent compared to 18.0 percent).
- Approximately 21.3 percent of offenders on probationary supervision for a period of two years were sentenced to serve time in the department compared to 30.4 percent of those who completed a 120-day treatment program.
- Missouri has seen a consistent decline in the recidivism rate of offenders over the past five years. Using a two year window, it is noted that of the FY05 releases, 43.9 percent were returned, in FY06 41.2 percent returned and in FY07 38.5 percent were returned. The FY09 rate is the lowest it has been over the last 10 years.

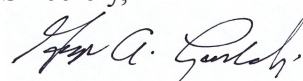
As you can see from this brief summary, much work has gone into the preparation of this statistical review of the offender population. I would like to thank **Shimin Zhaung** in our Research Unit for her efforts in compiling this valuable tool.

To summarize, we can see offenders are coming to the department with more non-violent, drug-related convictions and more are serving sentences with minimum mandatory percentages attached to the term. More often, offenders are bringing greater medical, mental health and substance abuse challenges with them as well. This information, therefore, challenges the department to search for innovative and effective ways to continue to divert offenders from incarceration, and to find ways that best address their treatment needs during confinement.

On the upside, this report validates that we are effectively meeting our mission, overall, as our recidivism rate continues to drop each year. I believe this is a direct testament to the effectiveness of the Missouri Reentry Process, treatment programming available to offenders during incarceration, and the adoption of evidence-based supervision practices by the Missouri Board of Probation and Parole. I also believe this validates our efforts individually, and as a team.

In closing, I challenge each of you, while keeping this data in mind, to explore new opportunities to meet our shared mission, "The Missouri Department of Corrections supervises and provides rehabilitative services to adult offenders in correctional institutions and Missouri communities to enhance public safety." Together we continue to make a difference.

Sincerely,



George A. Lombardi, Director

Web-Based Data System Coming to DOC

Implementation of a new, web-based data management system is on the horizon for the department. It will have the look and feel of the internet, and will become the single, integrated offender management system for the department.

Here is what you need to know now about MOCIS:

What is MOCIS?

The acronym stands for Missouri Corrections Integrated System. Currently, the department utilizes several different computer systems; the most commonly used is OPII. MOCIS is a new offender management system and will become the single, integrated system for the department – combining and replacing all other automated systems.

What will happen to OPII and other systems?

The goal is that MOCIS will completely replace OPII and other systems, such as Automated Road Book (ARB). Once MOCIS has been fully implemented and staff is trained, the department will cease using OPII and other, older systems for daily operations.

Why are we making this change?

Knowing that OPII and the “green screens” were obsolete technology, the department began seeking new options for offender management several years ago. It evaluated purchasing an “off-the-shelf” system (like going out to buy a Microsoft product and using it as it is), and designing its own system (similar to what happened with OPII many years ago). The department also was presented with the option of using the Corrections Integrated System (CIS), which was developed in partnership with the other state members of the National Consortium of Offender Management Systems (NCOMS). After review of the benefits and costs, Missouri made the decision to utilize CIS and make minor modifications for its business processes. This is where the acronym MOCIS came from. It is believed that this new technology will modernize the department’s ability to manage offender information, exchange information with each other and other agencies, and makes data entry easier for staff.

How will the department benefit from the new system?

Financially, the consortium approach saves the department from incurring any annual maintenance and license costs. While it will cost to place computers in the five remaining institutions, and to customize certain aspects of the system, it costs nothing to be a member of the NCOMS, use the basic CIS system, or share continuous improvements designed by other state partners. It is believed that this new system will improve the department’s ability to collect data in support of its desire to use evidence based offender management tools, and communicate more between the divisions providing support to offenders. The fact that the system is web-based and looks like a modern computer system should make it much easier for staff to use as well.

How will staff be trained on MOCIS?

The training academy has collaborated with the Office of Administration’s Information Technology Services Division (ITSD) to update computers and begin using a tool for developing an online, computer-based training curriculum. This online training will simulate the MOCIS experience and should allow for staff to receive training credit when they complete an online course. Until these courses for the major portions of MOCIS are designed, staff is encouraged to take a look at the demos on the DOC intranet to get a glimpse of what is coming!

Where is MOCIS being used now and when will I start using it?

Two MOCIS “modules” or “screens” have been opened up for staff use at this time. The first to rollout was offender property and the second was offender home and employment. ITSD has placed their timeline for working with the program modules on the intranet for everyone to see. The department is working with ITSD to identify subject matter experts for each module of the system and to identify implementation teams to rollout each new section of MOCIS as it is ready. Your use of the system depends partially on which portions of MOCIS interact with your job responsibilities – but it is coming soon. All employees are encouraged to visit the intranet, explore the demos, and start getting excited about this new development for the department! •



File footage: A corrections officer works on a computer in the control center at SCCC.

The Potency of Faith in Successful Offender Reentry

By: Jeananne Markway, Missouri DOC Restorative Justice Coordinator, and Doug Worsham, Missouri DOC Supervisor of Religious/Spiritual Programming

More often than not, corrections professionals understand that successful offender reentry requires collaboration with professionals outside the prison fence. In addition to the outstanding secular community organizations assisting in reentry, the faith community of professionals and volunteers is a vibrant and effective group of driven, passionate individuals committed to inhibiting the cycle of recidivism.

With the help of these faith-based organizations, corrections professionals are enabled to better prepare reentering offenders by helping them secure basic needs. Employment, housing, education, training, counseling and general overall support are crucial as ex-offenders transition back into an often hostile, dysfunctional and unforgiving society. The faith community provides an accepting and supportive environment coupled with accountability and expectation. The public is weary of crime and all that it costs and therefore is understandably skeptical of the sincerity and viability of the reentering offender. And, frequently, family and friends of offenders find themselves struggling to meet their own needs, let alone assisting when it comes time for offenders to reenter society. This is where a connection to a faith-based organization can make all the difference between staying out and returning to prison.

Sometimes the faith community will provide a non-sectarian approach based on faith principles such as the Circles of Transformation program at the Chillicothe Correctional Center, in Chillicothe, Mo. Individuals from the local faith community volunteer to educate and mentor the female offenders housed in transitional housing units (THU). Topics discussed involve processing reentry concerns; gaining support in addressing those concerns; learning positive communication skills; and making initial plans for stable reentry into family and community life. These volunteers are also there when the offenders are released back into the community to ease offender transition by providing or seeking to provide resources.

Many faith-based organizations and individuals volunteer within the Missouri Department of Corrections to help bridge the gap for offenders coming from prison to society. Research shows that family and community support during and after incarceration significantly helps offenders stay out of prison – thus the motivation for so many faith-based organizations involved in family-focused programs, mentoring opportunities, assistance with home plans, and providing greater access to resources for the ex-offender and his or her family.

The InnerChange Freedom Initiative, at facilities in Jefferson City and Vandalia, provides faith-based transitional housing units to maintain an environment within the prison that fosters respect for the rights of others and God's law, while encouraging the spiritual and moral rejuvenation. Emphasis is placed on six core values: integrity, responsibility, restoration, community, affirmation and productivity. Any offender 18 months short of release is welcome to apply regardless of his or her religious preferences.

In the Missouri DOC chapels, offenders find guidance and connectivity by way of reentry resource centers, which provide informational brochures, DVDs, booklets and aftercare program applications. More than 40 different faith-based classes relating directly to offender reentry are taking place in any given week at 21 chapels. Ministry representatives regularly interview offenders regarding faith-based home plans in addition to presenting their services to larger groups of offenders. Job/resource fairs connect offenders with resources in their communities. MDOC staff regularly make presentations regarding the reentry challenge to outside faith communities at ministerial alliance meetings, colleges and houses of worship. Reentry conferences throughout the state expose the faith community to the needs of reentering offenders. Regardless of their faith choice, the department seeks to assist each and every offender of the various groups accommodated which include Bud-

Faith continued from page 6

It may not have been labeled as such, but faith-based reentry has existed as long as there has been that divine and complex balance between justice and mercy.

dhism, Christian-General, Christian-Roman Catholic, Judaism, Messianic, Moorish Science Temple, Muslim, Native American Spirituality, Nation of Islam and Wicca.

To better understand and address issues associated with reentry, a department faith-based community team was assembled. Its mission includes trouble shooting policy revision, credentialing, curriculum standardization and mentoring among other items. Most, if not all, recommendations have been implemented successfully. In addition, optional faith-based classes are available in nearly one-third of the institutions' THUs, where recidivism rates for offenders spending at least five months prior to release is 12 percent lower than those offenders who do not participate in a THU.

As humans are complex beings, so too are their needs. Offenders are more than the object of a program or the tool of a new initiative. Conformity and robotic compliance to custody staff and the system as a whole does not lend itself to real personal change. Offenders are accustomed to "going along to get along." Unfortunately, this perspective only works until the price for noncompliance is eclipsed by the desire for self-gratification. With this perspective, no price is too high, no level too low. Many times not even personal shame; loss of one's family, marriage or children; or return to prison can deter this self-destructive behavior. But, there is an answer. Instead of changing the behavioral direction by sheer will, the entire operations mechanism is best replaced. When the spiritual side of man is activated, it can bring about a powerful, positive and constructive new energy. This is where the faith component comes into play as a potent catalyst for real and lasting behavioral change. Values must change before behavior

can change and stay changed. Motivations driven by a personal connection to faith principals that themselves are anchored in time-tested, even divine principles can serve as the ultimate underpinnings for a more noble and enduring successful reentry – and successful life.

Many offenders are eager to reevaluate the faith principles they may have previously dismissed or even abandoned because they realize their self-seeking strategy has failed them miserably. The downward spiral of self-service leads only to solitude and destruction. Faith-based reentry programs challenge offenders to address those spiritual issues deep inside that they have ignored and denied. With a value system so close to home, much needed accountability to those values – and those sharing them – is more difficult to evade.

The faith community has been involved in offender reentry for centuries, long before the advent of government programs and initiatives. It may not have been labeled as such, but faith-based reentry has existed as long as there has been that divine and complex balance between justice and mercy. As long as houses of worship and communities of faith have existed, so too, has the quintessential reentry mechanism. The elements are all there: education, inspiration, accountability and general support in a sometimes new family of faith.

Potency involves effective change-making agents. Collaborative efforts from all parts of society activating and effectively channeling these agents can but only cultivate a holistic and potent approach to successful offender reentry. How better to usher in real change but through faith. •

When the spiritual side of man is activated, it can bring about a powerful, positive and constructive new energy.

Olympics



The Missouri Department of Corrections has been a longtime supporter of Special Olympics. The department continues fundraising efforts, holding events across the state year-round. Below are some of the recent events staff have participated in. For more information on upcoming DOC events, visit the calendar located on the DOC intranet.

Eastern Reception Diagnostic and Correctional Center (ERDCC): Staff organized and hosted a local trivia night. Participants tested their knowledge on the categories of fast food, local events, current events, history, and sports. Approximately 75 employees from ERDCC joined members of the community to raise \$1,035 for Special Olympics.



Women's Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center (WERDCC): Staff from WERDCC (pictured left) braved cold weather for a cause at the Polar Bear Plunge in Mexico, Missouri. They received the Top Team Award for raising \$2,430, the most of all participating teams. WERDCC team members also won the award for best costume. Participants dressed as babies, donning diapers, baby doll dresses, onesies and footed pajamas.

Moberly Correctional Center (MCC): Ten MCC team members took part in the Polar Bear Plunge at the Lake of the Ozarks, raising \$650. In February, MCC staff (pictured right) took to singing for Special Olympics, performing singing valentines throughout the community. Fundraising for this event totaled \$406.

MCC is currently gearing up for the 2010 Law Enforcement Torch Run May 25th. MCC was honored at the event's kick-off event for their support and received several awards including: Greatest Increase in Gross Dollars, Greatest Percentage Increase, and Outstanding Agency of The Year. MCC's own **Rebecca Riley** was awarded the Outstanding Volunteer/Unsung Hero award for her leadership of the campaign. •



Lifesaver Award

The department's Lifesaver Award honors those staff members that intervene in serious situations in order to save a person's life. The following staff received this prestigious award:

SECC

SECC CO I **Donald Bode** and CO II **Tina Kolwyck** were honored recipients of the Lifesaver Award during a special ceremony attended by Director **George Lombardi** on January 19, 2010. The officers were recognized for their actions during an event involving an offender who attempted to hang himself in his cell. CO I Bode and CO II Kolwyck disengaged the offender, assisted him to the floor and then prevented the offender from sustaining further injury during a subsequent seizure until medical staff responded.

When faced with an emergency situation both CO I Bode and CO II Kolwyck remained calm and relied on their DOC training to guide their actions, maintaining all necessary and appropriate measures. The officers' actions directly contributed to saving the offender's life and prevented a possible fatality. •

ERDCC



While on duty in the dining room, Officer **Robert Shoemaker** noticed an offender choking. Shoemaker quickly administered abdominal thrusts which dislodged the obstruction from the offender's airway. Shoemaker's quick actions

ensured that the offender did not lose consciousness and eliminated the need for additional emergency medical help.

In a separate incident, Officer **Charles Morgan** was conducting a security check when he discovered an unconscious offender in his cell. The offender had fashioned a bed sheet into a garrote around his neck. Morgan called for additional assistance. Upon the arrival of Officer **Joseph Firnbach**, Morgan quickly secured

MECC

Corrections Officers **Julie Patterson**, **Dwayne Hart** and **Jeff Capestro** were recently honored at the American Red Cross headquarters. All three had received Lifesaver Awards. Capestro and Patterson were also honored with the Presidential Award.

Capestro assisted an offender who was choking by dislodging a foreign object that had become lodged in his throat. By delivering successful back blows, the object was dislodged and the offender was able to breathe again.

Hart responded to a medical emergency in three house restroom. The offender was in full cardiac arrest. Hart and his colleague performed CPR, ultimately saving the offender's life.

Patterson was on her way home from work when she decided to stop at the Sullivan Walmart. Patterson observed a Sullivan police officer talking to an elderly gentleman. The elderly gentleman collapsed in front of the officer and was in cardiac arrest. Patterson and the officer performed two-man CPR on the gentleman and were able to resuscitate him. •

the offender and both officers began removing the noose from the offender's neck. Upon removing the sheet and allowing the offender's airway to open, both officers continued to work with the offender to keep him conscious until medical staff arrived. The quick thinking and actions of these officers not only saved the offender's life, but it also demonstrated the efficiency and necessity of well trained officers. •



Harris Promoted to BCC Warden



Bill Harris has been appointed Boonville Correctional Center warden. Mr. Harris began his employment with the department in August 1989 as a recreation officer I at the Potosi Correctional Center. He was promoted to recreation officer II in March 1995 at the Farmington Correctional Center and to institutional activities coordinator in May 1997. In March 1998, Mr. Harris was promoted to recreation officer III at the Northeast Correctional Center. He promoted, in September 1998, to functional unit manager and transferred to the Southeast Correctional Center in April 2001. In October 2001, he was

appointed recreation officer III and was promoted to assistant warden in October 2006. Mr. Harris was promoted to deputy warden at the Tipton Correctional Center in April 2008.

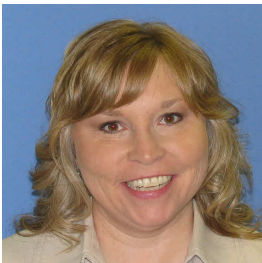
1999 to 2004. Cornell has lead several department initiatives aimed at improving safety, security and staff development.

Steele Named PCC Warden



Troy Steele has been appointed warden of Potosi Correctional Center in Mineral Point, Missouri. Steele began his career with the Department of Corrections at the Fulton Reception & Diagnostic Center in August 1992 as a corrections services trainee. He became a corrections caseworker in 1993 and was promoted to a functional unit manager at the Western Missouri Correctional Center in May 1996. He transferred to the Northeast Correctional Center in March 2000 and the Southeast Correctional Center in April 2001. In June 2001, Steele was promoted to deputy warden at the Southeast Correctional Center and transferred to the Farmington Correctional Center in October 2002. In December 2005, he was appointed warden at the Southeast Correctional Center. •

New Inspector General to Lead Investigations



Amy Roderick has been appointed Inspector General for the department. Roderick comes from the Missouri Attorney General's Office where she served as chief investigator. Previously, Roderick was the victim/witness coordinator for the Prosecuting Attorney's Office in Newport, Arkansas; investigator for the Missouri Attorney General's Office; and probation and parole officer for MDOC in Springfield and Kansas City.

Mitch Volkart has been designated deputy inspector general from his position as investigation manager.

Hanneken Named Reentry Coordinator



We are pleased to announce that Dan Hanneken has been appointed to the reentry coordinator position in the Office of the Director, Reentry Unit. Dan brings a wealth of unique knowledge and experience to the Reentry Unit, specifically in the areas of community partnership development, offender monitoring, case management, research evaluation of reentry initiatives, and grant writing. He has a Bachelor's Degree and Master's Degree from the School of Social Work—University of Missouri.

Cornell Named Superintendent of KCCRC



Patricia Cornell has been appointed superintendent of the Kansas City Community Release Center in Kansas City, Missouri. Cornell, who served most recently as deputy division director for the Division of Adult Institutions, began her career in 1984 as a corrections officer. Cornell has held a variety of positions with the department and served as warden of the Women's Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center from

Program Focusing on Employment Turns Out Graduates

By Roger O'Connor, District Administrator, District 8N, St. Louis

The smiles on the faces of District 8 North's most recent group of graduates from Phase I of the Day Report Program reveal their proud feelings of accomplishment. Each group who finishes the first phase of the program receives their "diplomas" accompanied by the enthusiastic applause of District 8 North staff.

District 8 North's Day Report Program is designed to address barriers to employment among chronically unemployed clients. It is staffed by two dedicated Probation and Parole officers, **Lisa Mayfield** and **Grant Sneed**, who are largely responsible for the program's success. Community partners who assist with the program are Missouri Career Center, St. Louis Public Schools Adult Basic Education, Better Family Life, and Family Support Center, all of whom commit their time and staff free of charge. The program has no budget other than bus tickets.

Ninety-two clients have participated in the program thus far, just over half of whom completed successfully. No one who successfully completed the program has absconded or been revoked. Forty-five clients are currently enrolled. It takes an average of six months for clients to successfully complete the Day Report Program. Gaining full time employment and/or earning a High School Equivalency Diploma by completion are major goals of the program. •

Funding Amps Up Pemiscot County Reentry Efforts

Contributor: Daniel A. Martinez, District 31 Unit Supervisor

The Pemiscot County Initiative Network (Caring Communities) is one of 36 nonprofit organizations recently awarded funding to support initiatives that reduce recidivism, reduce victimization and promote the department's vision of a safer Missouri. The Pemiscot County Initiative Network received \$100,000 of the \$3 million made available through fees paid by clients supervised by the Division of Probation and Parole.

The District 31 Probation and Parole office is working in collaboration with the Pemiscot County Initiative Network and the Faith-Based Community by providing the space for the classes, referrals for each class and arranging transportation to and from the classes for the offenders that need it. Classes focus on family & life skills, GED preparation, job readiness and sex offender rehabilitation. This contract also increases assistance available for utilities, child care, medications, insurance, rent, vocational licensing and emergency needs while they are participating in the classes.



Employing programs with a multi-disciplinary approach ensures offenders have the tools necessary to reach their full potential as productive, law-abiding citizens, resulting in safer and healthier Missouri communities. •

State Around the

Bonne Terre -

Eastern Reception Diagnostic and Correctional Center selected COI **Sue Whitt** (right, top) as the March Employee of the Month. Whitt works the evening shift in the Control Center and assists in training new officers in Control Center operations. COI **Pete Koenig** (right, middle) held the honor in February and **Lonnie Smal-len** (right, bottom) received the award in January for his assistance in the Grievance Office.



Chantay Godert has been promoted to deputy warden of offender management at NECC.

Cameron -

Crossroads Correctional Center's Captain **Tim Goebel** was recognized for his involvement in increasing Special Olympics donations from the institution. In 2009, CRCC staff, under Goebel's leadership, raised more than \$30,000 for Special Olympics and nearly \$284,000 since CRCC opened in 1997.



Boonville -

Becky Ehlers has been appointed deputy warden of offender management at Boonville Correctional Center (BCC).

Benjamin Wiemholt was named BCC's March Employee of the Month.

Bowling Green -

Northeast Correctional Center (NECC) named their 2009 Employees of the Year. Corrections Of-



ficer **David Henderson** (above) and Recreation Officer **Christopher Powell** (left) took the honors.

Cape Girardeau -

Travis McAlister, POII, District 22, Cape Girardeau, has been selected as the Employee of the Quarter. Travis has been with the Missouri Dept. of Corrections for 11 years. Travis started his career with P&P at District 14 and has supervised offenders at every supervision level. Travis has taken on several extra duties like local MRP Team, GED liaison and adopt-a-highway coordinator. Travis developed great public relations with law enforcement in Sikeston and Scott County. Travis worked with a local police detective and put together a presentation about methamphetamine for the District 14 staff when he was in that office. Travis is currently working from the District 22 office and is assigned to clients in Bollinger County. Travis is passionate about his work and develops professional relationships with his offenders and their sig-



nificant others. In 2007 the Celebrating Success Team was putting together the first Seniority Recognition Luncheon and Travis wrote a poem titled "Many Hats" that was included in the ceremony. Recently, Travis was contacted again to see if his poem could be used in the 2009 banquet. Travis created a new poem and it was used in the 2009 Seniority Recognition Brochure.

Chillicothe -

Parole Officer II **Kelly Peterie-Kissick**, was honored as Probation and Parole Region VI Employee of the Quarter. Peterie-Kissick earned the award after she took action, preventing the release of an interstate offender prematurely.

Columbia -

Probation and Parole Regional Administrator **Mike Webber** was recognized as Boone County Reentry Professional of the Year by the Boone County Offender Transition Network. The Boone County Offender Transition Network is a local team focusing on successful reentry by connecting offenders with community resources necessary to achieve positive outcomes.



Farmington -

Le Ann Mills, Employee Health Nurse, was selected Farmington Correctional Center's (FCC) Employee of the Month.

The **Restorative Justice Program**, under the direction of volunteer **Frances Barrett** and Institutional Activities Coordinator **Jacquie Hand-Dennis**, at FCC gave Jefferson Elementary's second grade class 100 flower pots. Offenders in the program also made bird houses out of gourds grown in the institution's garden. The bird houses were donated to nursing homes and Jefferson Elementary placed one in their butterfly garden.

Fordland -

Ozark Correctional Center named Corrections Officer **Larry Lyne** their 2009 Employee of the Year.

Fulton -

Donna Cayer has been appointed deputy warden at Fulton Reception and Diagnostic Center (FRDC).

Corrections Officer **Robert Jones** was named FRDC January Employee of the Month.

Cremer Therapeutic Community Center (CTCC) named Corrections Caseworker **William Morgan** 2009 Employee of the Year. Corrections Officer **Gordon White** is CTCC 2010 Employee of the First Quarter.

Jefferson City -

Bob Gruber, Missouri Vocational Enterprises (MVE) Coordinator, has been named Division of Offender Rehabilitative Services (DORS) Employee of the Quarter. **Carol Bates**, Toxicology Laboratory Manager, was DORS Employee of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of 2009.

Ron Mobley has accepted the position of correctional training officer with the Central Region Training Center.

Becky Fredrickson has been named district administrator at the District 27 Probation and Parole Office in Jefferson City.

Maryville -

Geraldine Kinman was selected March Employee of the Month at Maryville Treatment Center. **Phillip Smail** was given the award in February and **Kerry Brunk** took the honor in January. CO III **Jeremy Zeigel** was named 2009 Employee of the Year.

Moberly -

Moberly Correctional Center announced their upcoming Employees of the Month. **Rebecca Riley**, administrative office support assistant, receives the honor in April. COI **Roger Bork** was named May Employee of the Month. Corrections Officers **Georgia Smith** and **Stanley Baker** take the honors in June and July, respectively.

Tammie Gittemeier was selected MCC's January Em-

ployee of the Month and Officer **David Ogle** took the title in February.

Recreation Officer **Donald Saunders** was voted by staff as 2009 Employee of the Year.

Pacific -

Director Lombardi was on hand at Missouri Eastern Correctional Center (MECC) to present **Melissa Leuthauser** with the Director's Award of Valor. Leuthauser was recognized for her heroic and courageous actions. She risked her life to assist her neighbor whose home was on fire. She along with other local residents raced into the burning mobile home and carried out the resident, who unfortunately did not survive the incident.

Staff from MECC adopted a local family in need for the holidays. Staff collected gift cards, toys, clothing, books, baked goods, gas cards, canned goods and other gifts for the family. Staff also collected extra items and donated them to ALIVE for any other community members in need.



Region I -

From October through December, many offices in Region I participated in a toy and penny drive for Toys for Tots. On December 17, 2009, members of the Regional Wellness and Public Relations Committee delivered boxes and bags of toys to the Marines, as well as a cash donation of \$1,056.



St. Joseph -

Western Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center (WRDCC) announced its employees of the month for January and February. **William Bravo**, Sgt. Training, took the honor for January. **Michael Wright**, Laundry Manager II, received the award for February.

The WRDCC Adopt-A-Family Committee, along with the assistance of the Personnel Club, was able to assist 11 families, four soldiers stationed overseas and the Community Action Partnership Headstart Program this past holiday season. The 19 person committee spent time shopping, wrapping and delivering gifts to those in need. The committee was co-chaired by **Kimberly Malotte** and **Jennifer Price**. Other committee members included **Kathleen Bidding**, **Cynthia Blakely**, **Evelyn Borske**, **Tracey Davis**, **Marlene DeWeese**, **Wesley DeWeese**, **Shelly Gatewood**, **Ginger Hayes**, **Carla Huffman** (Santa's elf), **Acle Jenkins**, **Marcia Jennings**, **Dean Malotte** (Santa), **Samantha Ortega**, **Chiffany Rauch**, **Beth Wagers**, **Lori Zona** and **Tracy Zook**.



WRDCC's **Restorative Justice Organization** donated \$1,000 to local charities last holiday season. Those receiving donations included the YWCA Women's Abuse Shelter, Noyes Home for Children and Community Missions Cooperation for the Homeless. Offenders worked countless hours recycling aluminum cans in order to make this donation possible.



Brenda Sullivan, IAC, left, presents a check to Kim Kempf, YWCA Victims Services Director, and Jean Brown, YWCA Executive Director, from left.

St. Louis -

Saint Louis Community Release Center (SLCRC) selected **Brian Hayes** and **John Cain** as their March Employees of the Month. **Phillip Rose** and **Lee McGuire** received the honor in February and **Tessica Griffin** and **Gary Wilson** received the award in January.

Tipton -

Jay Cassidy has been named deputy warden of offender management at Tipton Correctional Center (TCC).

Corrections Officer **Samuel Shipman** was selected March Employee of the Month. Stationary Engineer **Steven Silvey** took the honor in February and Corrections Officer **Amanda West** was selected in January.

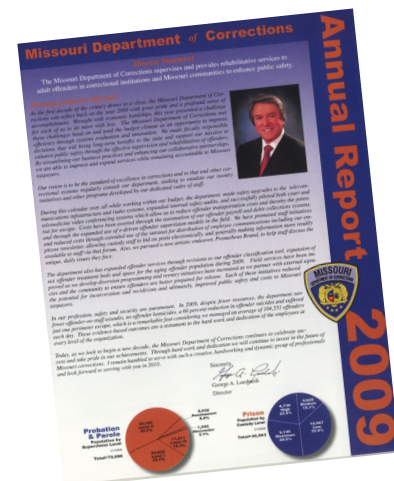
We Salute ...



... the men and women of our department who have made the commitment to protect our freedom. Click here for a list of our deployed, active and former veterans.

HOT Off the Press ...

The department's 2009 Annual Report!



The annual report features:

- Demographics,
- FY 09 Budget,
- Year in Review,
- Directory, and much more!

Click here to view a copy on our website.

Vandalia -

Corrections Officer I **Kristina Harris** (pictured at right with Warden Cyndi Prudden) was named Women's Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center's (WERDCC) 2009 Employee of the Year.



Corrections Officer II Sgt. **David Leake** was named January Custody Staff Employee of the Month. **Denise Dewey** received the honor among non-custody staff. In February, COI **Roberta Calkins** and **James Lingua** took the honors of custody and non-custody staff Employees of the Month, respectively. In March, COI **Gary Yokem** and Functional Unit Manager **Marilyn Buss** received the award. •

Employee of the Month

Congratulations to the 2009 Department of Corrections' Employees of the Month!

Click here to view a gallery of photos of all the 2009 winners of this prestigious award. Here you will also find information regarding the nominating process.

There are exceptional employees in all facilities, parole district offices and divisions who are worthy of consideration. Please make an effort to nominate appropriate candidates accordingly.

2009 Employees of the Month

